We express our gratitude to the reviewers for providing valuable suggestions to enhance the

quality of our manuscript. We have addressed the reviewer's comments as follows.

# Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)

**Conclusion:** Accept (General priority)

# **Specific Comments to Authors:**

Dear authors, glad to know that despite limitations, your study is the first to analyze and summarize national data on the impact of COVID-19-related hospitalizations in patients with MASLD during the early pandemic phase. Perhaps state that if genetic variances would affect MASLD and COVID-19 severity. Also, discuss on future studies, prospects and contribution in this area. All the best in your publication.

# **Response:**

We thank the reviewer for these comments. Considering the reviewer's comments, we have enhanced our discussion and added genetic factors/variances that could affect MASLD and COVID-19 severity. In addition, we discuss future prospects and potential research areas.

# Specific comments:

A) Please provide the filled conflict-of-interest disclosure form:

### **Response:**

We have provided the conflict-of-interest discourse form.

B) Please provide the Figures cited in the original manuscript in the form of PPT. All text can be edited, including A, B, arrows, etc. With respect to the reference to the Figure, please verify if it is an original image created for the manuscript, if not, please provide the source of the picture and the proof that the Figure has been authorized by the previous publisher or copyright owner to allow it to be redistributed. All legends are incorrectly formatted and require a general title and explanation for each figure. Such as Figure 1 title. A: ; B: ; C:

### **Response:**

We have provided the figure cited in the original manuscript in the form of PPT. This is an original image created for the manuscript.

C) The title cannot exceed 18 words.

### **Response:**

The title has been updated and is now 17 words long.

D) The "Article Highlights" section is missing. Please add the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text (and directly before the References).

# **Response:**

We have added article highlights at the end of the manuscript according to the guidelines provided on the website.

E) Authors are required to provide standard three-line tables, that is, only the top line, bottom line, and column line are displayed, while other table lines are hidden. The contents of each cell in the table should conform to the editing specifications, and the lines of each row or column of the table should be aligned. Do not use carriage returns or spaces to replace lines or vertical lines and do not segment cell content.

# **Response:**

Thank you for your comment. Three-line tables have been added to the revised manuscript.

F) Please provide the PMID numbers and DOI to the reference list and list all authors of the references. If there is no PMID or DOI, please provide the website address.

### **Response:**

We have added PMID and DOI to all the references in the manuscript.

G) Please add the reference location for Supplementary Table 1.

### **Response:**

We have added a reference to the supplementary table of the text.